



Junior High Syllabus SY: 2024 - 2025

St. Anthony of Padua Mission:

St. Anthony of Padua School, a ministry of St. Anthony of Padua Parish, is a K-8 Catholic elementary school that strives to meet the religious, moral, intellectual, social-emotional, cultural, and physical needs of its 21st century learners. We prepare them for high school, college, and heaven. Looking to the Eucharistic Jesus as our Lord, Brother, and role model, the school is committed to the transmission of the teachings and values of the Catholic Church and Christian culture to all students.

Academic Goals for the Year

Religion
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>6th</u></p> <p><i>Finding God</i> for Grades 1–6 reinforces the program’s robust Catholic faith content through the use of dynamic multimedia experiences. Children engage with videos, audio, and interactive experiences to respond to the ongoing invitation to enter into a deeper relationship with God and the Catholic Church. Throughout <i>Finding God</i>, children engage with Scripture and prayerfully consider the essential connections between God’s Word and their own lives. Each session begins with Scripture, and new posters and blackline masters devoted to Bible passages are integrated into every lesson. There is also an easy-to-use guide on how to read scripture located on the back cover of every Student Book.</p> <p>The Student Book features Catholic content shared in a rich context with beautiful Catholic art, thoughtful prayers, and engaging activities and experiences that will draw children in to fully learn, experience, and express their faith. Every session creates an environment in which children connect and further develop Catholic identity and literacy.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>7th & 8th</u></p> <p>The <i>Finding God</i> Junior High program expands on themes introduced in Grades K–6. The Grade 7 program focuses on the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Grade 8 program focuses on the Church as the universal flock of Jesus.</p> <p>In addition to the <i>Finding God</i> text, students will be studying Theology of the Body concepts appropriate for their grade level using TOBET’s, <i>The Body Matters</i> booklets.</p>

Science		
<p><i>Life Science</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Human System Interactions (Hereditary & Adaptations) ● Populations and Ecosystems ● Diversity of Life 	<p><i>Physical Science</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gravity and Kinetic Energy (Waves) ● Chemical Interactions ● Electromagnetic Force (Variables & Design) 	<p><i>Earth Science</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Earth and the Solar System ● The History of Planet Earth ● Earth’s Materials, Systems, and Natural Hazards ● The Role of Water in Earth’s Surface, Weather, and Climate ● Natural Resources and Human Impacts on Earth

Math

Students will build on foundational skills and practice to master their skills at an advanced level in the areas of:

6th

- Integer Concepts
- Rational Number Concepts
- Fraction and Decimal Operations
- Ratio and Rates
- Expressions, Equations, and Inequalities
- Graphing
- Area
- Volume
- Data

7th

- Proportional Relationships
- Addition and Subtraction Rational Numbers
- Multiplication and Division Rational Numbers
- Expressions and Equations
- Inequalities
- Area and Volume
- Circumference
- Data
- Probability

8th

- Linear Equations
- Relationships and Functions
- Systems of Linear Equations
- Real Numbers
- Exponents
- Scientific Notation
- Volume
- Statistics
- Probability

History

6th - Begins with a brief introduction of the Agricultural Revolution and continues with the development of the first civilizations in Mesopotamia. An emphasis is placed on Egyptian, Greek Roman, and Jewish civilizations as they most directly impact our Western civilization and Catholic faith.

7th - Study begins with the Roman Empire and the development of the Catholic Church in the medieval period. An emphasis will be placed on the study of Western Civilization and its interdependent connection with other cultures. Such as; European Renaissance, Reformation and Modern Age (exploration, Scientific Revolution and Enlightenment), but we also study the origins and expansion of Islam as it directly impacts Europe.

8th - Study begins with a review of the major ideas, issues, and events that shaped the founding of the nation. Emphasis will be given to study of our nation's founding documents, especially the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. This course will explore the geography of place, movement, and region, starting with the Atlantic seaboard and then American westward expansion and economic development up through the Civil War.

ELA

The students are educated in four main areas of language - reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Our primary focus is to build a strong foundation in reading as it affects achievement in all subject areas.

The **Onward Readers** program provides literacy instruction to improve reading performance and comprehension. It has four components: Word Study (phonemic awareness, phonics, and vocabulary), Fluency, Text Comprehension, and Differentiation for all learning levels. We also continue to support a culture of reading with the **Accelerated Reader** program. Students have point goals to meet each trimester and select books of their choice within their reading level range. Once finished with a book, they take a multiple-choice comprehension quiz to assess understanding.

We use **The Writing Revolution** curriculum for content-based grammar and writing. The structure of Informative, Narrative, and Expository texts are studied throughout the year, and students are taught how to gather and organize information in order to create writing pieces of various genres to effectively communicate their ideas on paper.

Our handwriting assignments are based on the style of **Writing Our Catholic Faith** workbook, which allows the students practice in cursive writing - shown to improve brain development in the areas of thinking, language, and working memory. Students are able to practice letter and word formation, as well as write prayers and faith facts that every Catholic should know! Workbook pages will be assigned for Homework 1-2x/week. This will be counted as a subgrade in Language.

Speaking and listening skills are developed through **TRIBES** activities and small group work, as well as in opportunities to give class presentations and Ask the Expert Q&A panels. Students are taught the basics of effective public speaking in order to gain confidence and poise in front of a peer audience.

Assessments / Grades for 6th, 7th, and 8th

- Assessment grades include assignments that students should have mastered (i.e. unit tests, weekly tests, and quizzes).
- Daily assignments include in-class assignments and homework, where students are practicing skills.
- Assessments may not be retaken or corrected for grade improvement.

<p><u>Religion</u> 30% Tests / Projects 20% Quizzes 20% Christian Service Hours 15% Homework / Classwork 15% Participation</p>	<p><u>Science</u> 30% Tests / Projects 20% Quizzes 20% Participation / Experiments 15% Homework / Classwork 15% Notebook (Notes)</p>	<p><u>Math</u> 30% Tests 20% Quizzes 15% Homework / Classwork 15% Participation 10% Projects 10% ST Math</p>
<p><u>Reading</u> 30% Tests 20% Homework / Classwork 15% Participation 15% Quizzes 10% Projects 10% Accelerated Reader (AR)</p>	<p><u>Language Arts</u> 30% Tests / Writing / Essays 20% Homework / Classwork 15% Oral Language - Speaking and Listening 15% Word Study 10% Handwriting 10% Quizzes</p>	<p><u>History</u> 30% Tests 20% Homework / Classwork 20% Projects 15% Participation 15% Quizzes</p>

Honors & Citizenship

- *1st Honors - All A's including Handwriting, Music, and PE*
- *2nd Honors - A's & B's including Handwriting, Music, and PE*
- *CITIZENSHIP - Both A in Work Habits & Behavior*

$A = 93 - 100%$; $B+ = 90 - 92%$; $B = 87 - 89%$; $B- = 85 - 86%$;

$C+ = 80 - 84%$; $C = 75 - 79%$; $C- = 70 - 74%$; $D = 65 - 69%$; $F = 0 - 64%$

CITIZENSHIP RUBRIC BEHAVIOR GRADE

Letter Grade	Slips (Conduct / Detention / Referral / Uniform Infraction)
A	0 - 1 slips
B+	2 slips
B	3rd slip + 1 detention
B-	Previous slips + 2 conduct slips
C+	6 slips + 2nd detentions
C	Previous slips + Referral
C-	Previous slips + 2 conduct slips
D	1 suspension
F	3 suspensions

WORK HABITS GRADE

Letter Grade	Late / Missing Work (Each Subject) No/Incomplete CW or HW, No Class Participation, Not Prepared for Class, Low Test Scores 50%		Attendance Unexcused Absences / Tardies 20%	AR / ST Math / Christian Service Hours 30%
A	0 - 3	3 effort slips	0 - 3	Refer to Teacher's Grading Rubric
B+	4 - 6	4 - 6 effort slips	4 - 6	
B	7 - 9	7 - 9 effort slips	7 - 9	
B-	10 - 12	10 - 12 effort slips	10 - 12	
C+	13 - 15	13 - 15 effort slips	13 - 15	
C	16 - 19	16 - 19 effort slips	16 - 19	
C-	20 - 21	20 - 21 effort slips	20 - 21	
D	22 - 24	22 - 24 effort slips	22 - 24	
F	25+	25+ effort slips	25+	

ST Math, Accelerated Reader (AR), and Christian Service Hours Expectations

ST Math, AR, and Christian Service Hours are part of your child's grade. *If goals or progress are **not** met, it will be a letter grade down of your child's final work habits grade.*

<p align="center">ST Math</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 35% → 1st Trimester ; 70% → 2nd Trimester ; 100% → 3rd Trimester ● Each puzzle in ST Math is a math problem. After correctly solving a group of similar puzzles, the student collects them. ST Math contains a vast library of puzzles - tens of thousands in total! To ensure that students problem-solve all year long, and to cover the critical areas of their grade level. ● Research shows that test scores increase as students collect more puzzles in ST Math. More time = more puzzles = more results! ● https://play.stmath.com/account.html#/welcome 	<p align="center">Accelerated Reader (AR)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Must be 100% of AR Goal Point each trimester. ● Must reach at least 85% of AR Accuracy to receive a B-grade. ● Motivate, monitor, and manage students' independent reading practice with Accelerated Reader. ● Students are to read books within their level for 30 minutes daily during independent work. 	<p align="center">Christian Service Hours Requirement</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px auto; width: fit-content;"> <p align="center"><i>*Christian Service Hours (per year)</i> 8th Grade = 20 hours 7th Grade = 15 hours 6th Grade = 10 hours</p> </div> <p>NJHS To qualify students must</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● complete 10 service hours per trimester; ● have good academic and behavior standing. <p>CJHS To qualify students must</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● complete 5 service hours per trimester; ● have good academic and behavior standing; ● apply and pay the \$5 membership fee.
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Attendance

Please make every effort to have your child at school on time each day. They should be seated in their classroom **before 7:50 AM** every morning. Our Tardy Bell is at 7:50AM and they will be marked tardy if they are not seated.

Excessive absences or tardies will be recorded and affect their work habit grade. If necessary, it will be reported. Many lessons cannot be retaught entirely or made up sufficiently. We sincerely value attendance because it directly relates to progress and success. I/We want your child to succeed.

Please try to make any medical/dental appointments for *after school and/or on non-school days*.

Expectations for Student Behavior

Students are expected to follow our school code of conduct, SLE, and Tribes' Agreement.

TRIBES' AGREEMENT	Student Learning Expectations (SLE)
Mutual Respect	Followers of Jesus
Attentive Listening	Academically Prepared
Right to Pass / Participate	Socially Aware
No Put Downs / Appreciation	Totally Healthy in Mind, Body, and Spirit
Personal Best	

Gradelink/Work Policy

Grades will be uploaded a few days a week to maintain consistency throughout the school year. This will help you and your child stay informed of the class's current status.

If your child is absent for an assignment or exam, the assignment will be marked as a zero until it is completed.

Junior high is universally applying a “**no late work**” policy. Late work will not be accepted. This aims to enhance each student's work effort and ethic and give them and their parents an accurate view of their progress. Deadlines will be communicated to students to provide them enough time to complete. This rule helps to instill a sense of responsibility and accountability in the students. Maintaining a fair and consistent grading system to uphold academic integrity is essential.

Enforcing a no-late-work policy helps prepare students for the expectations and rigors of high school and college. Late work is typically not accepted in these higher education settings, so teaching students the importance of meeting deadlines early on can better prepare them for future academic endeavors.

Always work with integrity - do the right thing 100% of the time

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is copying someone else's work or ideas and presenting them as your own. This includes using any kind of material, published or unpublished, in printed or electronic form. It also covers material created with the help of artificial intelligence. Plagiarism can also involve reusing your own work without giving credit.

Academic infractions, which carry detention and possible suspension penalties, include, but are not limited to:

- Copying another student's answers on assignments or tests.
- Discussing answers during class examinations.
- Using or in possession of unauthorized notes or materials during a test.
- Cheating or cooperation in cheating on a quiz or test.
- Having teacher copies of tests, teacher edition books, or other testing materials.
- Unauthorized use of information, materials, devices, sources or practices in completing academic activities.
- A student who allows another student to copy from his or her work is considered to be facilitating or contributing to cheating or plagiarism. All individuals involved will face consequences.
- Sharing, stealing, forwarding, or photographing major assignments, essays, projects, or exams.

Academic infractions will also result in an "F" or "0" in the grade book and detention for the assignment in question.

AI

It is already a violation of policy for students to represent work they did not do as their own, and work generated by an AI system falls under that policy.

At St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School, students are expected to complete all their work independently, including process work, drafts, brainstorming materials, and final projects, as instructed by their assignments.

The school's policy defines the following actions as violations of academic integrity:

- Having another person or entity complete a significant portion of a graded assignment
- Purchasing work from a company
- Hiring someone or a company to complete an assignment or exam
- Using generative AI tools (such as ChatGPT, Grammarly, etc.)

Communication and Teacher Policies

Students and parents of SAP Junior High can expect various forms of communication throughout the year including: emails, Google Classroom, phone calls, and websites. **Email** is the best way to contact us:

Ms. Marina Hernandez (6th Grade Homeroom / JH ELA & History Teacher)

mhernandez@stanthonygardena.org

Office Hours: Mondays (Make Up Tests ONLY) 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM and Wednesdays (Homework) 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Ms. Jessica Griggs (7th Grade Homeroom / JH Math Teacher)

jessica.griggs@stanthonygardena.org

Office Hours: Tuesday 3:15 - 4:00

Appointments on other days of the week when needed.

Ms. Genesis Garcia (8th Grade Homeroom / JH Religion & Science Teacher)

ggarcia@stanthonygardena.org

Office Hours: Tuesdays 3:15 PM - 4:00 PM

Please feel free to email us with any questions or concerns. We will get back to you as soon as possible. However, please be aware that we may or may not be able to check our messages during the school day until after the students leave.

If your email concerns picking up your child, medication, or something of immediate importance, please call the office and let them know to reach us.

Kindly read the entirety of the JH syllabus and each subject teacher. Once you understand and agree, please sign and return the acknowledgement form to the subject teacher.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please do not hesitate to send us an email. Thank you and God Bless!

Sincerely,

Junior High Team

Ms. Garcia, Ms. Griggs, and Ms. Hernandez



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Junior High Syllabus Acknowledgement and Information Sheet

I have read the Junior High syllabus and thoroughly understand the expectations, rules, and procedures expected of me as a student this year. I am responsible for all rules, regulations, policies, and course requirements outlined in all classes, the student agenda, and the school handbook. I will be held accountable for the contents of this class and supporting documents.

Student Name (Print): _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

“I have read thoroughly the contents of this syllabus and discussed with my child the expectations of them in these courses.”

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

**** Please sign and return by Friday, September 6, 2024 ****